

Message Text

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ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
AGRE-00 EB-08 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EA-07 COME-00 /129 W
-----150131Z 026461 /63
R 141700Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2299

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DEPT PLEASE PASS USDA/OGSM

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AFAS, EAGR
SUBJECT: ADDITIONAL RICE FOR FY 77 TITLE I PROGRAM

REF: (A) STATE 255110 (PARA 1 & 2), (B) STATE 014294 (PARA 5),
(C) STATE 02997 (PARA 4)

SATURDAY, MARCH 12, FOLLOWING LETTER HAND-DELIVERED TO AGATT
RESIDENCE: QUOTE MR. AMBASSADOR, WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF FOOD AID
WHICH THE UNITED STATES PROVIDES TO THE REPUBLIC OF ZAIRE, I
HAVE THE HONOR TO REQUEST, YOUR EXCELLENCY, FOR A QUOTA OF 30,000
TONS OF AMERICAN P.L. 480 RICE IN ORDER TO MAKE UP THE SHORTAGE
OF THE COMMODITY IN THE NATIONAL MARKET. IN THE HOPE THAT YOU
WILL TRANSMIT TO YOUR GOVERNMENT THIS NEW REQUEST, PLEASE ACCEPT,
MR. AMBASSADOR, OUR VERY GRATEFUL THANKS. UNQUOTE SIGNED BY
MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE.

C.T. SUPPORTS THIS REQUEST AS BEING REASONABLE UNDER CURRENT
MARKET CONDITIONS BECAUSE:

- (1) THE DOMESTIC RICE CROP ENDS IN JUNE/JULY AND ZAIRE MUST
IMPORT RICE FOR THE AUG/DEC PERIOD. THE ABOVE REQUEST INDICATES
THE GOZ FORWARD PROGRAMMING TO MEET FORESEEN NEEDS.
 - (2) GIVEN THE CURRENT RESTRICTIONS ON FX AND DOMESTIC SPENDING,
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THE GOZ IS RIGHTLY TRYING TO PURCHASE THE BEST QUALITY AND LARGEST
QUANTITY UNDER THE MOST REASONABLE TERMS. PAST EXPERIENCE HAS
BEEN THAT THE CHINESE MAY ALSO DELIVER RICE UNDER FAVORABLE TERMS
BUT QUALITY HAS BEEN SUCH THAT GENERAL POPULATION REJECTS IT.
(3) MEETING THIS REQUEST WOULD ADD APPROXIMATELY \$6.5 MILLION
TO OUR FY '77 TITLE I PROGRAM AND SIGNIFICANTLY BOOST THE FOOD
AID PORTION. THUS OUR PROGRAM WOULD BE MORE IN LINE WITH THE

INTENT OF U.S. LAW.... QUOTE 75/25 PER CAPITA GNP PROVISION UNQUOTE.

(4) ZAIRIAN HISTORIC ANNUAL RICE IMPORTS HAVE BEEN 20-25,000 M.T. PER YEAR. LAST YEAR'S IMPORTS REACHED APPROXIMATELY 70,000 M.T. DURING THE JUNE/DEC PERIOD. WITH THE 1976 DOMESTIC RICE SUPPLY EXHAUSTED, MANIOC IN SHORT SUPPLY AND EXPENSIVE, CORN IN SHORT SUPPLY, THERE WAS A SHIFT IN THE DIETARY PATTERN OF THE KINSHASA URBAN POPULATION BECAUSE OF ABUNDANT SUPPLY OF REASONABLY PRICED IMPORTED RICE. THE SHIFT WAS SO SIGNIFICANT THAT THE EXTRAORDINARY HIGH LEVEL OF RICE IMPORTS IN CY 76 WAS PRACTICALLY EXHAUSTED BY MID-FEBRUARY 1977. THIS FACT DID NOT GO UNNOTICED BY THE GOZ AND IS IN PART A REASON FOR THEIR 1977 REQUEST.

(5) WHILE DOMESTIC RICE PRODUCTION IS EXPANDING YEARLY, THE MAIN PRODUCTION AREAS FOR KINSHASA ARE MBANDKA/LISALA/BUMBA WITH LISALA/BUMBA BEING THE MORE IMPORTANT. THE ARRIVAL OF DOMESTIC RICE ON THE KINSHASA MARKET HAS BEEN LATE THIS YEAR AND PRELIMINARY INDICATIONS ARE THAT THE CROP WAS HURT WHEN MANY OF THE VILLAGERS FLED THE AREA DURING THE EBOLA HEMORRHAGIC FEVER OUTBREAK DURING OCT/NOV OF LAST YEAR.

(6) EEC IS PROVIDING 10,000 M.T. OF CEREALS IN CY 1977 AID. DISCUSSIONS WITH THE GOZ NATIONAL CEREALS OFFICE INDICATES THIS WILL PROBABLY BE THE EQUIVALENT TONNAGE IN CORN FLOUR. THUS, THERE IS NO DUPLICATION OF ASSISTANCE.

(7) ADDITIONAL COUNTERPART FUNDS WILL BE GENERATED TO STRENGTHEN LOCAL DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS, AND

(8) AS WITH OUR EARLIER REQUEST, THE UMR WILL HAVE TO BE WAIVED. A 20-25,000 M.T. UMR WOULD REQUIRE A FX OUTLAY OF APPROXIMATELY \$6.5-7.0 MILLION (COST PLUS FREIGHT). MEETING THE GOZ REQUEST AND WAIVING THE UMR REQUIREMENT WOULD SIGNIFICANTLY ASSIST AT A TIME WHEN THE GOZ IS TRYING TO PROVIDE AN ADEQUATE FOOD SUPPLY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WITH VERY LIMITED QUANTITY OF FX.

(9) C.T. REQUESTS AN ADDITIONAL 26,000 M.T. BE APPROVED ASAP FOR INCLUSION IN FY 77 PROGRAM.

(10) WE WOULD PREFER FOR ADDITIONAL RICE TO BE INCLUDED IN CURRENTLY ENVISIONED FY 77 PROGRAM. HOWEVER, IF THIS WOULD RESULT IN DELAY OF 77 PROGRAM, THEN WE RECOMMEND PROGRAM SIGNING AS CONTEMPLATED WITH LATER AMENDMENT TO ADD ADDITIONAL RICE. WE DO NOT WISH FOR PROGRAM TO BE DELAYED DUE TO URGENT NEED FOR TOBACCO AND OTHER ITEMS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RICE, SALES, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, PL 480 TITLE 1
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977KINSHA02258
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770087-0909
Format: TEL
From: KINSHASA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770363/aaaacdnj.tel
Line Count: 107
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History: Hold (001 Tobacco) added on 4/16/2009 3:39:09 PM by WASHDCMcGoldRJ, Hold (001 Tobacco) removed on 4/16/2009 3:45:07 PM by WASHDCMcGoldRJ (Litigation Hold Lifted)
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 025b7bb8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Page Count: 2
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TAGS: EAGR, CG, (KAYINGA ONSI NDAL)
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